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COUNTRY: Norway

SUBJECT: Norwegian Industrial Leadership Study Team

PLACE ACQUIRED: --

DATE ACQUIRED BY SOURCE:

25X1A6a

DATE OF INFO: Late Oct 53

SOURCE DESCRIPTION:

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1. The problem confronting the Norwegians which they stressed most was two way communication between the top management and the individual workers. Management policies initiated at the top do not get down into the lower organization levels in a satisfactory way. Likewise, the views of the workers do not get back to the top management. Hence, the Norwegians were most anxious to learn about the methods used in US plants to solve this problem.
2. The second most important problem confronting the Norwegians was organization. They were anxious to learn all they could about ~~US~~ methods of organization, particularly along the lines of engineering, research, and operation and were especially interested in the position of the foreman.
3. They believed that Communism was receding in Norway and cited as evidence the results of the October elections in which the Communist vote decreased.
4. The Government-owned steel and rolling mill being erected within the Arctic Circle is not yet in operation and will probably require two to three more years before completion. They feel that the Government should have built a pilot plant instead of a commercial plant to begin with, to see how steel making is going to work out under such adverse conditions. The Government, however, built the mill to provide employment for fishermen whose market has been decreasing.
5. The Norwegians felt that in case of war the Soviets would use Norway as an invasion route to the sea. The Norwegian Soviet border is closed and there is no East-West trade at that point. In case of invasion, most of the Norwegians feel that 100% resistance should be offered but some intelligent people are of the opinion that resistance is useless and should not be offered.
6. The Norwegians are in favor of NATO bases but the industrialists grumble because of the fact that they are losing men to the bases.

- End -

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